00:00:01:00 - 00:00:16:19

Alysha Allaire

Nishnaabemwin... It's -- it's more than just a language. I never knew I was missing something until I started learning Nishnaabemwin. It fills something that you never knew was missing.

00:00:16:19 - 00:00:31:09

Brady Penasse

It's a connection to who I am as a person, it’s connection to all of my relations, to my ancestors. And the spirit world is connected to the plants in the forests. It's connected to the land where we came from.

00:00:32:13 - 00:00:52:21

Ian Campeau

It's the instruction manual on how everything around this lake works, like our dialect specifically, and as the dialect get more broader. I'll go as far as saying, like the Great Lakes, like our language explains the Great Lakes, and in a depth that no other language has... Simply because nobody else has put in the time that we have as Nishnaabeg People around these lakes.

00:00:54:00 - 00:01:17:08

Glenna Beaucage

When you hear the name of a plant in the language, a part of it tells you what it does or tells you a signature of its doctrine. And when you hear like about an animal, it's speaking about what they do in their habitat. So it's the language directly from the land.

00:01:21:03 - 00:01:55:10

Scott-McLeod Shabogesic

Nishnaabemwin is vitally important to our identity as people. Since the introduction of the Indian Act in 1876, a lot of that has been decimated from our community. And so what we're doing as a government is trying to take what's left of our language - and language speakers - and bring them up to the forefront in creating an environment where we can once again have Nishnaabemwin front and center of our community and leading the way in our culture.

00:01:56:21 - 00:02:14:22

Ian Campeau

We're from this earth as much as a deer is from this earth, as much as a fish is from this earth. We are the environment. We are the land. Just like a tree is just like this rock is. Like, we're from this and we can't separate that. And that language really grounds us in that. It really shows us our relationship with the land.